



# County of San Diego

## HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

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Maternal, Child and Family Health Services  
Public Health Laboratory  
PH Nursing  
Border Health  
TB Control & Refugee Health  
Vital Records

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### BASE STATION PHYSICIANS' COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 15, 2013

#### Members Present

Conrad, M.D., Heather – Rady Children's Hospital  
Dunford, M.D., Jim – City of San Diego EMS  
Grad, M.D., Michele – Palomar BHMD  
Haynes, M.D., Bruce – County EMS  
Kahn, M.D., Chris – UCSD  
Klingensmith, Todd – S.D. Paramedic Association  
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – Sharp Grossmont BHNC  
Smith, D.O., Ryan – Tri-City BHMD  
Wang, M.D. Marcus – Scripps Mercy BHMD  
Wiesner, M.D., Christopher – Scripps La Jolla  
Workman, R.N., Debi – Palomar College Paramedic Program

Bingham, Jim – Viejas Fire Department  
Bourdon, R.N., Darlene – Scripps Mercy BHNC  
Broyles, R.N., Linda – AMR/RCCP  
Conover, William – Camp Pendleton Fire

Curnow, Robert – Mercy Air  
Davis, M.D., Dan – Mercy Air  
Dotson, R.N., Melody – UCSD  
Duffy, Jennifer – Escondido/San Marcos Fire  
Egleston, Clint – Southwestern College  
Foehr, Rick – EMSTA College  
Graydon, R.N., Cheryl – Palomar BHNC  
Howard, M.D., James – UCSD EMS Fellow  
Idman-Gervais, R.N., Dianne – Sharp Grossmont  
Lemire, Harold – San Diego Fire Department  
Marovich, Steven – Palomar College  
Nichols, Dave – Federal Fire  
Ochs, R.N., Ginger – S.D. Fire Department  
Rosenberg, R.N., Linda – Sharp Memorial BHNC  
Rosenberger, R.N., Wendy – Tri-City Medical Ctr.  
Scott, Chris – San Diego Fire  
Seabloom, R.N., Lynne – Oceanside Fire  
Sullivan, Don – AMR  
Walls, Brandon – REACH Air  
Wells, R.N., Christine – Scripps La Jolla

#### County Staff

Smith, R.N., Susan  
Stepanski, Barbara

#### Recorder

Loginov, Clara

#### In Attendance

Aker, R.N., Donna Kelly – UCSD ROC  
Allington, R.N., Linda – Carlsbad Fire  
Al-Marshad, M.D., Adel – UCSD  
Bennett, M.D., Donald – USMC EMS/NHCP

**I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Michele Grad, M.D., called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A motion was made by Rick Foehr to approve the minutes from November 20, 2012, seconded by Marcus Wang, M.D. Motion carried.**

**III. MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Bruce Haynes, M.D.)**

- A. The winter flu and illness season has hit the region. The number of isolates is rising, though at an expected rate. California is still not seeing the influenza season other states are experiencing. Emergency departments have observed a large number of respiratory illnesses. In some EDs, visits are up 25-50%. The influenza vaccine is still available. The capacity plan, which was sent to hospitals a few weeks ago, should be referenced for dealing with high volumes.
- B. The California Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) held the California EMS Awards ceremony in San Francisco after the December 5, 2012 EMS Commission meeting. The following personnel from San Diego received awards: Border Patrol agent Travis Creteau, for the rescue of two children in a car submerged in a lake; Rick Rod of Rural Metro for training, publications, and disaster experience; Gordon Anderson, an AMR dispatcher, for community outreach programs; Reema Makani Boccia of Rural Metro for community outreach and creative initiatives. Clinical Excellence Awards will be presented at individuals' workplaces. The awardees are selected from nominations, which can be submitted by anyone. The nomination form is available on the EMS Authority website.
- C. There continue to be sporadic drug shortages, most recently of prefill atropine. Vials may be used instead, but multidose vials should be avoided. New morphine Carpujects from Hospira are not licensed for intramuscular use. The Carpuject can be used intravenously, or vials from another manufacturer can be used.
- D. UCSD Hillcrest Medical Center was recognized as one of five initial Comprehensive Stroke Centers by the Joint Commission. Another hospital in San Diego County is waiting to hear about their status, following a site survey.
- E. State EMSA has funded three Advanced Emergency Medical Technician training programs in the state, one of which is located in San Diego, at the National College of Technical Instruction (NCTI). The focus is on law enforcement and tactical medicine.
- F. Suggested changes for the Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST) form were requested from committee members. The form has been revised once since its release. This form should not be confused with the Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) form, as it contains more detailed information, including intensity of care instructions.

- G. A reminder was given to transport agencies to try to remove backboards and other equipment as soon as possible, as storage space is limited and the inventory of backboards in hospitals is becoming very large.
- H. The Emergency Medicine Oversight Commission (EMOC) is working on guidelines addressing the dispensing of narcotics in emergency departments. This looks to be an important issue, as misuse of prescription narcotics is a leading cause of accidental death in the United States. The guidelines would recommend against the following: replacing stolen or lost prescriptions, prescribing missed methadone doses, prescribing long-acting pain medications, or prescribing pain medication if the patient is already receiving it from another physician. Signs would be visible upon a patient's entry into the ED. A meeting is being planned that will include representatives from all EDs. The Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System (CURES) is a statewide database that is used for prescription drug monitoring.
- I. Countywide protocols are currently being revised; the third meeting, covering pediatrics, recently took place.
- J. The National Association of EMS Physicians (NAEMSP) meeting took place at the beginning of January in Florida. It was reported that one of the focuses at the meeting was community paramedicine (which was also referred to as "mobile integrated care" by some at the meeting.) NAEMSP has yet to write a position statement on the topic, as discussions are still in the early stages.
- K. Bypass numbers for 2012 were at a record low.

**IV. SAN DIEGO HEALTHCARE DISASTER COUNCIL (SDHDC) (Linda Rosenberg, R.N.)**

- A. There was discussion of the November 15, 2012 statewide drill at the last meeting. The input from this discussion will go into the after action report. The drill was successful, and there was a lot of positive feedback, as well as lessons learned.
- B. The Hospital Preparedness Program grant for 2013 has been approved by the state, but the deliverables are still pending.
- C. The SDHDC began sending out a monthly newsletter in late 2012. This newsletter will be sent out to BSPC as an informational item.
- D. Mary Meadows-Pitt reported that "triage tag Tuesdays" have been ongoing in Lakeside (CSA-69) on the first Tuesday of each month.
- E. The next state drill will be taking place in May 2013; further details are pending.

**V. BEACON UPDATE (Jim Dunford, M.D.)**

- A. All Beacon sites will be getting a three to six month extension as they finish up.
- B. A new board of directors has been appointed, and the transition from the Beacon Health Information Exchange as a UCSD-labeled entity to a regional entity with directors of all hospitals involved has occurred. A 501(c)(3) is being established to ensure sustainability.
- C. Adel Al-Marshad, M.D, reported on gaps observed in the system, including the need for a real time alert mechanism that would notify primary care physicians and case managers of patients' status when they have requested emergency services. This type of system could play a significant role in reducing 30-day readmissions, an important federal metric.
- D. Some preliminary ideas regarding the Regional CAD Interoperability Project (RCIP) were reported. There is a possibility of tying the EMS Hub in with police and fire CAD data to create a sustaining information system model.
- E. Rodney Hood, M.D., received an innovation grant for the management of 200 chronic users of the EMS system. The patients are currently being selected, and the program will involve linking the individuals with faith-based services and other care providers.

**VI. RESUSCITATION OUTCOMES CONSORTIUM (ROC) (Dan Davis, M.D.)**

- A. The Amiodarone, Lidocaine or placebo study (ALPS) has approximately 60 patients. San Diego had a recent site visit for this study.
- B. San Diego's participation in the Biomarker Lactate Assessment of Shock in Trauma (BLAST) study has been completed. Some sites are still finishing this study, especially in air medical environments.
- C. A study involving estrogen's effect on traumatic shock and brain injury had been planned as the next trauma study, but there were statistically significant impacts on patients in the initial pilot in Dallas, and there are discussions about whether this outcome will deter ROC from pursuing the trial. Studies will be done to see if the negative outcomes were a result of estrogen administered.
- D. A study on tranexamic acid (TXA) is in development. The Department of Defense has expressed interest in a study looking at TXA and traumatic shock. This study probably would not begin until 2014. James Howard, M.D., of UCSD did work in Australia, where TXA is administered for hypotensive traumatic shock, and he reported that TXA is somewhat cumbersome to administer, but effective. It has also been used by the military.
- E. There is interest in doing a ventilation study in San Diego

**VII. OTHER BUSINESS**

- A. Dr. Dunford discussed upgrades in training and equipment pertaining to tactical emergency medicine, as this has become a prominent issue due to high-profile shootings. The City of San Diego is working with the San Diego Police Department to create an advanced curriculum for a number of personnel. With grant funding, combat gauze and tourniquets were purchased, and training will focus on a unified approach to an active shooter environment. The San Diego Sheriff's Office has received similar funding, and is also training staff on the skills and equipment required.

**VIII. SET NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting is scheduled for February 19, 2013 in the Sharp Spectrum Auditorium.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.